

Truancy

If a student is absent without an excuse signed by the parent/guardian or if the student leaves school or a class without permission of the teacher or administrator in charge, the student shall be considered truant. A "habitual truant" shall be defined as a student of compulsory attendance age who has four unexcused absences from school or from class in any one month or 10 unexcused absences during any school year. Absences due to suspension or expulsion shall not be counted in the total of unexcused absences.

In order to reduce the incidents of truancy, parents/guardians of all students shall be notified in writing at the beginning of each school year of their obligation to ensure that all children of compulsory attendance age attend school. Parents/guardians shall be required to acknowledge in writing awareness of their obligations and to furnish the school with a telephone number or other means of contacting them during the school day.

The school shall establish a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences. When a student fails to report on a regularly scheduled school day and school personnel have received no indication that the parent/guardian is aware of the absence, school personnel or volunteers under the direction of school personnel shall make a reasonable effort to notify the parent/guardian by telephone.

A plan shall be developed for a student who is at risk of being declared habitually truant with the goal of assisting the child to remain in school. When practicable, the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian shall participate with district personnel during the development of the plan. Appropriate school personnel shall make all reasonable efforts to meet with the parent or guardian to review and evaluate the reasons for the child's truancy.

Penalties

A student who has four trancies in a quarter and/or eight trancies in a semester will be in danger of receiving a failing grade in the course.

A student shall be given a warning on the first truancy offense. On the second offense, the student may be given a three-day in-school suspension or be suspended from school for up to three days. Additional trancies shall be grounds for in-school suspension, suspension and/or expulsion.

Adopted by the Board: April 1995
Revised by the Board: December, 2005

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-33-104
C.R.S. 22-33-107

CROSS REFS.:

Administration policies:

JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages
JH, Student Absences and Excuses

Board policies:

EL-9, Treatment of Students, Parents and Community
EL-10, Student Conduct, Discipline and Attendance

